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# Victoria Street Newz

## September 2007

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**Vol. 4 No. 6**

## a security and prosperity document



photo: 'Awesome Al', in Edmonton

### Cross-Canada meeting about Guaranteed Income

by C. L'Hirondelle

On July 7th, there was a small, unfunded meeting in Ottawa with a huge topic: guaranteed income. The National Anti-Poverty Organization (NAPO) invited 40 people from across Canada to this meeting with 27 people attending: 12 from the NAPO board as well as reps from the NDP, the Greens, the nurses association, women's groups, ACORN (organizing low-wage workers), the Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC) and the National Council on Welfare. Members of organized labour were invited but did not attend.

While massive amounts of resources have been fruitlessly devoted to economic and social policy analysis, the small number of guaranteed income proponents have had to organize with almost no funding. It is not surprising that this was the first such national meeting to happen in Canada since the 1970s when guaranteed income was on the agenda of most social justice groups. Proponents in the US included Martin Luther King Jr., Buckminster Fuller and Robert Theobald and in Canada the Royal Commission on the Status of Women and Pierre Berton. More recently, the National Council on Welfare's 2006 online survey with 5000 respondents ranked Guaranteed Livable Income as the number one solution to poverty in Canada.

Out of the tightly structured one day meeting formed a national working group on guaranteed income. Unlike most other parts of Canada, in Victoria there have been meetings on guaranteed income for almost a decade. In 1999 a series of meetings on the "Welfare System" created a focus on the need for guaranteed income and also on the need for a name change: from Guaranteed Annual Income to Guaranteed Livable Income. "Livable" was emphasized due to its strong, positive connotations similar to the idea of a "living wage." In 2003, a handful of us formed Livable Income For Everyone (LIFE) with the mission to see Guaranteed Livable Income in every country in the world.

Because we have been organizing on this issue in Victoria for some time, there is more familiarity with arguments for and against guaranteed income, and with the importance of two essential elements of any guaranteed income discussion: money and work. Both words have society gripped by the throat, yet there is little understanding of where money comes from, what gives money its value or how the money supply is determined. Peoples' understanding of "work" goes back to the Calvinist work ethic some 500 years ago, yet this emotional/moral definition of work does not fit with automation, work harmful to the environment, or unpaid care work (more and more of an issue with dropping birth rates and higher needs for elder care). Nor does it take into account that the current economic system with its widening global wealth gap is inexorably going to lead to war. Even conservative senator Hugh Segal is advocating the need for basic income in all countries for this reason.

Because of time constraints (due to no funding) these topics could not be adequately addressed on July 7th. When I brought up the issue of money, only one person (later) asked for more information; others indicated we shouldn't talk about money at all. Another puzzling omission was lack of reference to the Women's Economic Justice Report on Guaranteed Livable Income—one of only 3 recent projects in Canada on this topic (the other two being a project examining data from the 1970s Manitoba Mincome and a Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives paper on guaranteed income due out this fall -- their first ever paper on this topic). This omission is odd since it indicates people have been doing little research on guaranteed income and they see it as something similar to, but better than, welfare.

And the fundamental rationale for welfare is that poor people -- women and children making up the majority-cause poverty. Even people living in poverty blame themselves for their

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# About Street Newz

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within our Downtown Community”

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Contribute to social change by supporting the Victoria Street Newz coalition and vendors, by reading information that informs you directly about poverty issues, and by working for progressive, peaceful, non-violent change.

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## JUST ANOTHER RANT

My first day in Edmonton was a sweltering one, the sun dominating the cloudless sky in the way only a prairie fireball can. Only days before I’d been in Portland, at the NASNA (North America Street Newspaper Association) Conference. I was feeling a part of something big, connected to like-minded independent media folk across Canada and the US of A. I had survived 18 hours on a greyhound bus from Vancouver, and was standing at a city bus stop on my way to visit my dad.

I moved behind the bus shelter, to stand alongside a man who was also, obviously, desperate for some respite from the unforgiving blaze. “Too bad there aren’t more trees around,” I said, attempting polite conversation. The man looked at me as though I was mad, told me that, in his opinion, there are already too many trees, and proceeded to describe what a mess they make on his lawn. I looked around, to make sure I wasn’t having some sleep-deprived hallucination, but no, I really was standing in a tiny sliver of shade behind a bus shelter attempting to reason with a man about the significance of trees for people and other creatures who might benefit from their inherent sun-blocking abilities.

When I realized my efforts were futile I moved away, choosing the hot sun over his nonsensical nattering, remembering why I’d left the province in the first place, and wondering how many people like him are responsible for those unsightly



## Alberta, Alberta

by Janine Bandcroft

clearcut developments that reign all over the former Beautiful British Columbia. Later that day, when I was telling the story while purchasing some local and organic produce, I was reassured, with a smile, that “we’re not all like that.”

When I left Edmonton it was from the train station which is, for some similarly only-in-Alberta logical reason, not connected to local public transportation. In the days that comprised the interim, I visited my dad regularly, was inspired by Edmonton’s tent city, alternative media, folk & heritage festivals, farmers’ market, & otherwise efficient bus and light rail transport options.

Upon returning home I learned that a Street Newz vendor, Marlene, had died of cancer (and poverty - if she’d had permanent housing and treatment her story would have ended differently), and city officials had attempted to forever ban camping in Cridge Park. Portland has transformed their tent city into a Dignity Village (see [dignityvillage.org](http://dignityvillage.org), it’s awesome); Edmonton’s elected authorities have set up water and toilet facilities for their tent city campers and have promised every last one of them affordable housing. But here, in fair Victoria, tax dollars were used to attempt the further criminalization of the poor. On behalf of Marlene, and all the other street folk who’ve died needlessly, before their time, I thank the lawyers and judge who took the time to challenge and revoke such a cruel intent.

Nine days after I last saw my father,



## OPINION PIECE

# A Watering-Can Tale

by Brian Mason

There’s a minor dust-up in Victoria over the new watering-can spray park in Beacon Hill Park. Officially named the Harbourside Rotary Watering Garden, you can find it near the corner of Douglas and Simcoe streets. The debate, at its core, is about limits.

Beacon Hill Park is one of three parks in British Columbia subject to the terms of a 19th century trust agreement with the province intended to maintain and preserve its set-aside lands for the enjoyment of the public. The key words in the trust document – which is still in effect, buttressed by two successful court decisions

– are “maintain and preserve.” Ever since, there has been a tug of war between those who want to exploit the park for commercial activities, large festivals and recreational development and those wanting to preserve its natural character. Of course, even the trust agreement itself, which does include the notion of limits, neglectfully overlooks the Coast Salish peoples’ extensive use of these same lands for many centuries before they were taken away by Europeans.

When social problems become overwhelming – meaning government has been ducking its responsibility to set or referee limits – governments at all levels often turn to frivolous, monument-building activities. Part diversion, part stall tactic, part self-aggrandizement, such endeavours are embarrassing public admissions that governments have lost their way, that they are policy and values bankrupt. Yet, Victoria city council chose this moment – faced with



daunting social and environmental problems – to tear out one of two existing, functional “water play facilities” in Beacon Hill Park to make way for the watering can. This is the same city council that has watched paralyzed as homelessness mushrooms, the need for safe injection sites reaches the point of desperation, affordable housing disappears, sewage goes untreated, urban development runs amok, and car traffic worsens to a threatening level for cyclists and pedestrians. Still, city council is quick to appoint task forces with no task save that of throwing up their hands to conclude that the city’s crises are some other level of government’s problem.

And, at one of those other levels, the provincial government (whose frivolous, monument-building activity is the 2010 Winter Olympics) recently boasted of a \$4.1 billion surplus in this year’s operating budget. It’s not much different than a set of parents withholding certain elements of care from their children – clothing or shelter, say – and being satisfied that they managed to save extra

money during the year.

When a government is failing to meet the basic needs of its citizens, while proclaiming a huge budget surplus and spending on frivolous projects, aren’t those citizens entitled to take action against their government in the form of civil disobedience, especially when survival is at stake? Government, after all, risks losing its authority and legitimacy at times like these. Both the social contract and sense of reciprocity between citizens and their government break down when authorities can’t deliver the goods, or do so in such a way that immoral, extreme disparities of wealth result. It’s all about setting limits.

Go and have a hard look at the watering can.

Submitted by Brian Mason, a writer who lives in James Bay, near the watering can.



# All hope abandon ye who enter here

Sometime between 1306 and 1321 Dante Alighieri wrote, in his Divine Comedy, the words he presumed adorned the gates of hell:

“Lasciate ogni speranza voi ch,intrate!”

Those words, in English, read something like:

“All hope abandon ye who enter here”

Sometime in the mid 20th century, the Nazi fascist regime adopted these words:

“Arbeit Macht Frei”

which, in English, mean:

“Work Will Set You Free,” or “Work Brings Freedom”

The sign was placed over the gates of Auschwitz. Historians debate whether it was meant as a mockery, or was a belief that self-sacrifice in the form of endless labour would bring some kind of spiritual freedom.

Sometime in August 2007 an anonymous note, from “A Concerned Citizen,” was delivered to the Street Newz mailbox. The note appears to have been widely distributed to local media. service providers, and our illustrious premier Gordon Campbell.

The note reads:

“FARMS ARE HIRING! CONTACT YOUR OFFICE FOR REFERRAL INFORMATION”

which, the concerned citizen informs, translates into “try and work and we’ll make sure you die on the streets.” Following is her/his accompanying letter:

Dear Media,

Greetings. The above computer note was attached to an Income Assistance, government cheque, and was mailed to an income-assistance person(s). The recipient was classified as “PPMB,” or “person with persistant multible barriers.” These people are often considerably challenged medically speaking. They may be able to work a “little bit,” but they are NOT able to work to be “fully self-supporting.”

A review is done by the ministry, about every two years, of a medically challenged recipient. What a person on PPMB is NOT told, is that if they reach out to do this farm work, or any other work, they will be disqualified from being able to renew their PPMB status! The form letter that the recipient will receive will say that the reason that they have beebn disqualified was that “they had been employed,” and that “they had reached out to find employment.”

Prior to the above, the government used the media to tell recipients that now they could earn \$500 a month! These people, then, were being encouraged, unknowinbgly, to get themselves disqualified!

The government is practicing entrapment. This is a criminal act - thus begins the slide into homelessness. And thousands and thousands have died, ie: suicide, stress induced heart attacks, and stroke.

Please help!

Concerned Citizen

p.s. Please tell people to contact TAPS (Together Against Poverty Society, funded by the Law Society) immediately if they are having any difficulty with the Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance. There is a 3 week time period to prepare an appeal (TAPS will help). A letter from a doctor, saying the recipient is “unable to work to be completely self-supporting,” should help. Every recipient needs to prepare and keep on file lists, photo-copies of blood tests, ultra sounds, ex-rays etc, and prescription labels for the Ministry, in case they’re needed.

**TAPS is at 415-620 View St; 250-361-3521.**

## How to create a fascist state

by Derek Skinner

*Fascism - a regime of centralised autocratic government headed by a dictatorial leader, severe economic and social regimentation and forcible suppression of opposition.*

Given an authoritarian regime, a fascist state can be created by the application of a few elementary steps. In Canada we have an authoritarian regime by virtue of the party system, corporate control of the ruling parties, and the fact that our elected representatives are controlled by the Party Whip and have to represent the party line rather than public interest.

The Prime Minister’s Office functions as a virtual dictatorship and can promote or obscure issues by control of Committees and limitations on debate in the House of Commons and press releases by friends.

It seems that a fascist state can be created if the following steps are taken.

1. Keep the agenda hidden. Dissemble, lie and talk one thing while doing the opposite.
2. Control the media and access to information so that only the “official” line can be discussed.
3. Create an “enemy” and generate hate and racism as a coordinating technique.
4. Maintain a level of fear and distrust. Identify and supervise/eliminate dissent.
5. Reduce the public level of education so that independent analysis of facts becomes difficult.
6. If necessary, maintain a high proportion of near poverty so that the masses are kept busy scratching for a living and do not have time to think
7. Provide the lowest common denominator of entertainment - lots of sex and violence.



## Cross-Canada meeting about Guaranteed Income

..... cont’d from page one

poverty and are devastated by debilitating levels of shame. However, LIFE’s research shows that poor people have not caused poverty, poor mothers and children have not caused poverty, and in fact they are needed by the economic system to function.

Another issue without time for discussion was on terminology: some people want to stick with “Adequate” income or “Basic” income and do not want to use “livable” income. Imagine if health benefits were two-tiered: “adequate” and “livable?” Which would you want? Michael Moore in his movie “Sicko” shows what happens without livable universal health benefits: you die. Choosing “adequate” or “basic” over “livable” is acquiescing to the idea that poor people cause poverty and don’t deserve “livable” income.

Yet all local guaranteed income activists I have spoken to since returning from the Ottawa meeting have reiterated the importance of the word “livable” because it means “enough to live on.” After all, who would say they want an “adequate” life as opposed to a “livable” life. The reason: fear of offending rich people--who make up but a tiny percentage of world population. (Note how Al Gore and Michael Moore have come under malicious attack for bring up “inconvenient” facts.) On the other hand, no one worries about offending poor people because they are seen as being lazy and immoral—the only possible reason society would allow millions of people to die from poverty in the midst of plenty. (See economic gluts: <http://www.livableincome.org/glutofgoods.htm>).

Some of the attendees at the July 7th meeting urged a cautious approach to advocating guaranteed income, as in “this is going to take a long time.” The fact that this idea has been advocated as far back as Thomas Paine (and likely earlier than that) does not seem to register that it has already been “a long time.” Nor does it register that society has voted many millions of people in the world a guaranteed livable income already (people who do not have to sell a product in the market to get money to live).

A common outburst heard at anti-poverty meetings is: “They want me to die.” How can anyone justify telling people that yes, you will have to die, while we take our time designing the perfect inoffensive guaranteed income. Until there is funding so people without livable incomes can participate in meetings about Guaranteed Livable Income, the guaranteed income movement in Canada will be dominated by the baby-steps forever approach. (There may even be another tier added to the poverty industrial complex for the “long time” approach to guaranteed income.)

An economic system that depends on forced production and forced consumption to keep going is doomed to fail, but it may do irreparable harm to humans and other life forms in the process. No less that Martin Luther King and Gandhi identified poverty as the number one problem in the world. Now we also face ecological crisis because of fatally flawed economic growth policies. Guaranteed income addresses both: no more poverty, and a way to escape from ecologically harmful economic practices. The need to make a strong case for guaranteed income is obvious. There is no reason to make a weak case for a guaranteed income other than acquiescing to the idea that poor people cause their own poverty.

If you are one of the 10 million people earning under \$20,000 per year (2004 Rev. Canada data), it is time to speak up. This way, the July 7th meeting could still become a strong first step to Canada finally joining the international movement for Guaranteed Livable Income.

And a huge thank you to the Unitarians who generously sponsored me to attend this event.

Send your vision for guaranteed livable income to Livable Income For Everyone: Box 8441, Victoria BC, V8W 3S1. Website: [www.livableincome.org](http://www.livableincome.org). Phone NAPO! (1-800-810-1076) Let them know your views on “livable” and “adequate” or email them at [napo@napo-onap.ca](mailto:napo@napo-onap.ca) and send us a copy at [gli2020@shaw.ca](mailto:gli2020@shaw.ca).

*Cindy L’Hirondelle is of Métis descent, originally from Alberta, and has been a mother and feminist and activist for many years. She is a co-founder of Livable Income For Everyone, and believes that a Guaranteed Livable Income is a possibility in her lifetime.*

### A proposed solution.

In order to reverse this slide into fascism and control by the United States we have to change the makeup of our governments. We have to elect representatives who are committed to protection of the people and prepared to revoke the legislations that have led us so close to the brink of disaster.

This means that neither of the two main Federal Parties can be allowed to govern and the majority of presently elected MPs must be thrown out unless they commit to representation of the electorate instead of the party line.

We have to bring words like “fascism,” “traitor,” “betrayal of trust” into general public use. The war on terror must be replaced with “war against the Afghani or Iraqi people.” Instead of repeating neo-con phrases and definitions our texts and speeches should use words like humanitarian, nurturing, caring, moral values, empathy, responsibility, protection, freedom, opportunity, prosperity, fairness, community, co-operation, honesty, trust, and so on.

All we have to do is stand together and use the secret paper ballot box to get what we want. Don’t be misled by pleas to vote strategically. When the time comes, vote your principles.

That is real Democracy.



# Smokin’ In Paradise

by Cyann Ray

**WARNING: SMOKING THIS ARTICLE MAY YOU LEAD TO INDEPENDENT THOUGHT, AND SET YOU FREE.**

I recently spent some time visiting a dear, old friend on Bowen Island. A fellow transplanted Torontonion, she now believes she’s living on an island paradise. Lush forests abound, spectacular mountain views and very few roads and cars. Does it get any better than this? Yes...the people are a special lot too. It’s a small island and everyone seems to know each other. Nobody locks anything up and crime is almost unheard of. Everyone is into music or art. They’re theatrical, creative, entrepreneurial types that do not live by the clock. It looks to be an idyllic existence.

My friend, although nearing her 5th decade like myself, looks fabulous. Long gone is the make-up and high maintenance hair products. Au natural clean living appears to permeate the population. An organic food supply, no refined sugars and some yoga pays off in fresh-faced, happy souls. Unbelievably juxtaposed against this backdrop of peace, love, granola, tree huggin’, drum beatin’, off-the-grid livin’ group of aging boomers and hippies is the disturbing observation that everyone smokes cigarettes.

The stench of this foul addiction was notable yet I saw no yellowed smiles or leathery skin. Everyone looks fit and healthy. Aghast, I openly shared my surprise and concern over this evil lifestyle choice. How could these types of people living in this sort of environment, smoke? As a devout anti-tobacconist, I was certainly the odd one out.

The biggest problem I have with cigarettes is that they don’t kill people quick enough. Smokers can suck back those poisonous lung darts for decades contaminating their surroundings, setting a horrible example for all children and, sooner or later, becoming an unnecessary strain on our healthcare system. That being said, I am eternally grateful that the death caused by cigarettes is a deliberately slow one, otherwise I wouldn’t be here today to complain.

My mother was part of a victimized generation that was fed some garbage from the tobacco industry. In order to double their market, these drug pushers had to convince the ladies to light up . Women were told they’d be ‘thin and successful’ if they smoked and that’s all it took for a generation to become addicts. And the addiction, along with stupidity, insecurities and peer pressure ensured future generations would follow this long, smoky trail towards death.

I was born with chronic bronchitis and raised in a home with second-hand smoke. Looking back, I spent much of my childhood coughing and missed a lot of school. As a teenager in the 70s, everyone smoked. In fact, this is how I met my gal pal whose now on Bowen. I worked in a variety store and she’d come in regularly for a pack of smokes. Even though I had always hated the smell, it was cool to smoke back then and I succumbed, wanting to be cool. I managed to choke back a few packs during those stupid teen years but once I discovered marijuana I saw no reason to smoke tobacco. An all-natural, therapeutic herb verses a man-made, poisonous, addictive drug. There was no hesitation in my decision, but can you believe that I was actually ribbed a bit for being the only non-smoker in the crowd!?

By the 90s everyone I knew had wizened up and quit. I moved out here to the glorious West Coast and proudly embraced B.C.’s stringent anti-smoking laws. I’m hoping that it’s just a matter of time before the only place tobacco can be consumed is within the privacy of one’s own home, amongst adults only. Meanwhile, we non-smokers must continue tolerating the noxious cloud of sickly, anti-social behaviour.

As a cyclist I have nearly been set ablaze several times by the common practice of tossing lit cigarettes out the car window. Of course this is nothing compared to the thousands of acres of forests lost annually due to reckless smokers. Apparently cigarette butts are the most littered item on the planet. Why do smokers feel the world is their ashtray??

For those aging boomers and their parents, I understand they are victims of a drug addiction. But for those under thirty, shame on you for not learning from your predecessors and doing better. There hasn’t been anything cool about smoking cigarettes for over 20 years. When I see young people light up I simply see a big neon sign that reads “I’m an idiot and I don’t give a damn about my health!”

That Bowen crowd really puzzled me. Perhaps it’s just my naïveté that expects more from those creative island dwellers. As it was explained to me by the only other non-smoker there, Bowen is merely a “bedroom community” of North Vancouver, not some secluded island paradise. And as such, the inhabitants often carry home that city mentality. That hustle, bustle of urban decay that fuels people to compete and over consume and then need a smoke to calm down and centre themselves. Or they need a smoke to stay thin and successful.

Affordable and effective help is now readily available for anyone wanting to kick this vile addiction. To choose to continue smoking is not only suicidal, it runs counter to the healthy, forward-thinking, hedonistic attitude of this beautiful Left Coast. And as a former city girl flourishing on THIS island paradise, I just don’t get it.

# Dear Couz

by Jennifer Hastie



Are there many tourists out your way this summer? Man, this place is loaded with them. A couple of days ago I went to see the Treaty proceedings out Sooke way. Seeing as the Treaty Talks were advertised in the paper and everyone was welcome, and seeing that most everyone has an opinion on how the land should be divided up here in our province, I thought that, for sure, there would be a crowd in the hall.

A crowd? Well, the small hall was mostly full, but it seemed to be full with only Natives and mostly (I was peering at the list that they asked us to sign) white guys who had a vested interest in attending. (an axe to grind? A job to do?)

I arrived late. There were no parking spaces left, but I was quickly encouraged by a Native guy to park in his neighbour’s driveway. Man, I appreciated that! I was already late ‘cause I couldn’t find the right road. The talks were fascinating. The treaty group is made up of people from the Feds (they call themselves “Canada”), people from our province (they call themselves “BC”) and people from 5 different Native Cultural groups. A lawyer, a white man, is employed by the Natives to do the talking.

One youngin,’ obviously running the show, (she was Native), talked about the morning being like “watching paint dry.” Well, I didn’t think so. Ya know why? I figure that those fine details are what can make an agreement work or not work properly between two groups of people. These details partly involve who is supposed to tell what to whom and how long you may delay talking to the other side. The Natives also wanted to be sure that the government officials would actually honour the laws regarding things like building codes on the Native lands. Therefore, the Natives wanted something written into the Treaty to make this work.

Does that sound confusing, Couz? Right, it does, but hey, these details are important. In other words, it is all about trusting others “to do the right thing” in handling important info. Also, aboriginal people think differently about some things than some of us white guys might. To-day the group was also talking about communication with school officials like teachers and principals.

The natives have different problems from us, Couz, regarding housing standards, but they have similar problems to us regarding school children. One thing is for sure: we all want honest communication with others, especially those who can affect our lives. Another item, too, which is similar to where you live, Couz. Do you not want the houses spaced a ways from each other so that you can have privacy? And do you not want to live among the beautiful trees and the peaceful forest over there too?

Right. Our Natives want the same thing as you guys. They DON’T get that now, because the Brits left them with such tiny reserves. Today those reserves are very over-crowded, sort’a like having 5 houses built side by side on a city lot.

Couz, I have more news about the Tsimshians. This whole shebang concerning artifacts from the Dundas collection is getting curiouser and curiouser. You know that last month I told you that private individuals had bought those amazing Dundas artifacts that were on display in our museum. I was wondering, at that time, if any Tsimshians were concerned about that. Well, what I didn’t bother to tell you last time was that I had tried to call Roy Vickers, who is Tsimshian, to ask him or his office staff to answer that question for me.

“Why not go to the top Tsimshian artist around today?” I said to myself. Well, after two phone calls, explaining what I wanted to his office staff both here and in Victoria and after e-mailing to them also, I gave up and called our local museum. “Were there any protests regarding the sale of these artifacts?” I asked the head honcho of the exhibit. “Oh no,” she says, “The Tsimshian elders were all in agreement.” “Gee, that’s great,” I said to myself.

Some time AFTER I wrote you about this, I cruised the Internet and discovered that there had been a protest by Tsimshians over in Toronto. You see, Couz, that’s where the artifacts are being shown now. This protest took place April 30th. The article was published in the Globe & Mail on May 1st.

Man, was I irked with the curator. I was all set to get on the phone and complain when my husband said that perhaps she ALSO hadn’t heard about the protest. Well.....ya know, Couz, I think that he might have a point. After all, the curator DID call me during her noon hour. That says something about dedication, eh, and when someone is dedicated enough to make a phone call during their noon hour, I usually begin to trust them. They are often committed, as well, to being honest in their job. And what does it matter to her if there IS a protest—she’s just “doin’ her job,” right?



Well then, how come no one is bothering to tell anyone anything about what’s going on here? Both sides are at fault, me thinks, the white man’s media and the natives’ communicating with the white man. I’ll be keeping you posted!

Wanna hear about a “funny” back East? (it’s funny because it’s not funny at all) Well, it seems that the Acadians got kicked out by the Brits when the Brits first settled back East. This happened in the 18th century, before the Brits came out to the West Coast. Unfortunately, the Brits kind’a shot themselves in the foot, because they kicked out all the people (except for the aboriginals, of course) who knew how to survive in that harsh climate.

So, they had to get the Acadians back!!! The Brits apparently did bring them back, but only in small groups. Ya see, Couz, this stuff is all about power and control. I don’t really think that it’s about race at all. But then, who am I to comment; I’m just an old lady who knows nothin’ about Colonialism.....

Ya say that you don’t know what kind of white guys the Acadians were? Well, the guy who told me this was originally Irish, talking about his ancestors.

However, I’ll tell you one thing: the Brits were one of the better groups to occupy countries. At least they attempted to teach original peoples how to run their own show when it was time to leave, whether it was here or in Africa or India or wherever. Other Europeans were much worse, I hear. Those Europeans sometimes just dropped the ball and left the whole mess for the locals to try to fix.

I can sure vouch for the Brits being more decent than what the Spanish were like in South America. We’ve traveled there lots and heard lots about the ugly, ugly history down there from them.

Gotta go, Couz....talk to you next month!



What are the solutions to poverty??

by Gerry Masuda

There is an ever rapidly increasing gap between the rich and poor nations and for the peoples within each rich and poor nation. What are the structural basis for this growing trend towards inequality?

In all countries, whether industrialized like Canada or a Third World country like Mexico, the gap is rapidly growing. The rich are getting richer and the poor are becoming poorer. The result is increasing instability in the world. This trend is unsustainable. What is the basis for this increasing serious mal-distribution of wealth?

The experts and those who traditionally speak for the poor have obviously failed in identifying the fundamental basis for poverty in spite of the billions spent in emergency aid to the Third World.

Perhaps we could act locally in Victoria, while thinking about the growing global problem of poverty. Perhaps it is time to give the poor ‘voice’, to let the poor, themselves, tell us how we can help them get out of poverty. How can this be done?

I would appreciate any ideas you may have. Please send them to gmasuda@telus.net.



MLA 29% Pay Increase

By Peter Verin



“He who refuses to embrace a unique opportunity loses the prize as surely as if he had tried and failed.” William James

The Campbell Regime has resorted to big ‘P’ POWER POLITICS in declaring war on both its voting and non-voting populace: the 29% pay increase raises issues, eyebrows & according to monitor David D. Schreck, via Editor Street Newz Editor Janine Bandcroft, recently another 10%, this time SECRETLY TACKED ON to the recently rammed through 1st obscenity!! In a very ‘them and us’ society, B.C. politicians have made it clear that they won’t change that; they’ll reinforce it!

The central issue is transparency:

(1) reasons, cause-to-effect relationships should be relevant, not deviously devised before, during or after-the-fact ‘reasons’: keeping it real; it’s quite clear that parity is less of a black and white playing at catchup argument when one considers that, similar to educational increases, there are provinces and countries that offer a better education for less or for free; perhaps, it’s an all too well- known fact that politicians (‘them’) don’t come cheap. Time that we invested in a civic virtue/action party, not an evil virtual/reactionary parity.

(2) Nor should they be overintellectualized exercises in ‘bullshit baffles brains’ or exploiting people’s apathetic ignorance: stripped down, ironically, the increase constitutes a reductio absurdum argument THAT should not sit well, even with those that claim to understand, if only because society doesn’t approve admitting and/or recognizing that there’s little to understand what you and I know to be underhandedness; ...THAT is a bitter, if not humiliating pill (‘just what the doctor ordered’) to swallow by a majority of BCers, savvy or not.

Which is where Street Newz readers come in: Herr Kampbell is cynically betting that you don’t count, that you’re disempowered; he’s betting that there’s no urgency to MAKE A DIFFERENCE,- between making a difference and not making a difference! It’s important that we take his POWER CLAIMS seriously,- today Victoria, tomorrow Ottawa,- that we seize upon this gaffe/opportunity (“he who refuses to embrace a unique opportunity loses the prize as surely as if he had tried and failed”: William James) actively, not reactively, to call him on it: what are you/we WAITING for? Is the declared war a collision course or the resulting collision?? And/ or does that depend on our collective lens and corrective response???

‘Needless to say,’ we need to network, organize and get underway: it’s not taking a chance to effectively call him on it and raise our stakeholder claims: YOU need to be heard and WE need to act; which is why we’re here (now) and why existing technology (isn’t it wonderful?) allows you to contact and be in touch with Street Newz, the operative conduit and liasion; thanks to Janine Bandcroft for making that possible.

Campbellian Concerns

from Daniel

People the likes of Premier Gordon Campbell concern me. This man’s father killed himself at age 41, and at the time Gordon Campbell was entering puberty.

Some in his position as a child may have gone on to be youth at risk, but Premier Campbell is an adult at risk. He has carried his personal wound into adulthood and has largely disowned his suffering to near denial and has thus “inflicted it” upon the greater populous of British Columbia - that’s a lot of displaced karma! Still, we will probably need that proposed 21 storey hospital complex at Jubilee (along with an onsite crematorium for resource conservation) to meet the wave of emigration of those who would construct (his) olympics.

The sum of my position is that the members of Laurel House do not appear to have been given an opportunity for consultation of the proposed changes and the public has not been provided info of the members’ need for the continued operation of a primary meeting place - I relate especially of those whose condition is chronic to the degree that rehabilitation is not an option to them and a meeting place facilitates great social and health support for them.

And so I leave the rest to chance and depart as the way of I Ching:

...[...] Thus we do not simply abandon the field to the opponent; we make it difficult for him to advance by showing perseverance in single acts of resistance. In this way we prepare, while retreating, for the counter-movement. Understanding the laws of a constructive retreat of this sort is not easy. The meaning that lies hidden in such a time is important.[..]

Rebuttal on Raises - Downtown Dilemma

by West Mundy

It is so easy for us in Victoria, especially for the poor and downtrodden, to raise a stink about our provincial government’s announcement of substantial raises to pay and pensions.

It is therefore a no brainer to oppose these Campbell Liberals as greedy politicians and power junkies.

While I deal with our provincial government on a weekly, if not daily, basis in my role as a freelance journalist, and with a lengthy and long studied look at Canadian and international politics, our provincial government is worth every dime of their raise.

With this boom atmosphere in Victoria, and all over British Columbia, these same Liberals have led the way to the most successful period in our entire history. These men and women work very hard and not only deal with the business of the province, but for the most part, get to spend a lot less time with their own families.

With their collection of university degrees and savvy business sense, these same men and women understand the importance of a prosperous province, they live here too and want to say, as does half the world.

Things are not perfect, people still fall between the cracks, but if I know one thing about Premier Campbell, he cares.

Campbell Government Credit Card Statement

Compiled by Carole James and New Democrat Official Opposition - bcndpcaucus.ca

Finance Minister Carole Taylor released a list of potentially embarrassing purchases made by the Campbell government in the last fiscal year, in an attempt to pre-empt questions about why these purchases were made.

The NDP Opposition conducted its own analysis and found a number of items that were missing from Ms. Taylor’s abridged list - including junk food, business luncheons, and spa visits.

Maybe there’s a good reason for the Campbell government’s \$51,452 tab at Starbucks. But we think British Columbians deserve answers as to why these items are on the books.

Here’s a sample of purchases that haven’t been explained. In the spirit of openness and transparency, Ms. Taylor should provide a full account of these purchases.

Top Junk Food Purchases

- 1. Pizza: \$128,170
- 2. Doughnuts: \$18,953
- 3. Beer and liquor: \$3,756

Top Business Luncheons

- 1. Boston Pizza: \$39,503
- 2. The Shark Club: \$14,784
- 3. Chianti’s: two transactions totaling \$2,392

Top Urban Indulgences

- 1. Starbucks: \$51,452
- 2. Limo rentals: \$11,602
- 3. Urban barn: \$5,002

Top Body and Soul Refreshments

- 1. Spas and spa products: \$39,377
- 2. Fitness stores and studios: \$18,874
- 3. Cosmetics: \$2,588





The Wheels Go Round and Round

Tony Hoar is an island resident and former Tour de France participant who constructs bike trailers for disabled people, for kayaks, for groceries, for dogs. A couple of years ago he designed and created a mobile shelter specifically for homeless people. Tony writes on his website (tonystrailers.com):

“Ideally, we would be able to ensure that each and every person has a home. In the meantime, immediate solutions are needed. While shelters are provided by many agencies, there are people living on the street who prefer their independence. Others who take advantage of the shelters offered would benefit greatly from the security of having a rolling means to make their living, along with protection from the elements should they need it.”

Recently, Oak Bay Green Committee founder Valerie Williams donated two quality bicycles to Tony, for the purposes of helping homeless people. “One was bought by Mark Lindal (who had donated his previous bicycle to a homeless person),” Tony wrote, “and this produced enough funding to enable us to present a trailer to Gary,” an Oak Bay binner. Vic Lindal, who recently completed a trip to Manitoba pulling one of Tony’s tent trailers, was on hand to help get Gary set up with his new Apartment sized Grocery Getter which makes Gary’s job as recycler just that much easier.



Know Your Rights!!

Do you know your rights under the Canadian Charter? What about your rights as a tenant? Are you curious about how to file complaints against the police?

The UVic Chapter of Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC) wants to help answer some of your questions about the law.

Starting in the October issue of Street Newz, PBSC volunteers will produce a monthly article providing information on a particular legal issue.

If you’d like to suggest a topic, please drop ideas off at Street Newz’s mailbox at 1027 Pandora Ave. or email us at pbsc.articles@gmail.com.

Is Prison Making Betty an Addict?

Dictated by Betty Krawczyk from Alouette Correctional Centre for Women in Maple Ridge, BC.



Prison is making an addict of me. A TV addict. At home, I don’t even have a TV. I get the news from other sources. But here, it’s TV news or nothing. That would be OK for the short haul (which is turning onto a long haul, since the chief justice denied my release pending appeal) except for the TV ads. The ads are definitely messing with my head.

A few are funny. Like the boss lady who gets fouled by a faulty mute button. You know the one. Or ads that would be funny if they weren’t so sick. Like the Weyerhaeuser ads using a cut-out tree (inadvertently symbolizing a clear-cut forest) to persuade us that a dead forest is better than a live one. Or, the automobile ads, selling powerful engines to propel reckless young men like deadly missiles though our city streets.

And the ads for male erectile disfunction simply mystify me. It seems that a whole new language has been invented by men, to keep women in the dark about this problem. The question I have... Wouldn’t women be the first to know of the problem?

But the ads that really grab my attention are the ones for items not sold in stores. My first downfall was for a book - one that promised secret health remedies. As Telus prohibits prisoners from toll free calls, I contacted my youngest daughter. It didn’t occur to me that her masters degree in communication would present a problem. And it didn’t at first. She readily ordered the book. But the next time I called, for a food chopper order, she hesitated. She suggested that perhaps I should wait ‘til I was released, and we would go shopping. “This chopper isn’t sold in stores,” I insisted, “and it chops whole onions and potatoes in one fail swoop.” She reminded me that everything looks easier and smoother on TV, and at this point, the thought occurred to me that I might have to switch to another daughter for future orders.

Only, when the really neat wall lamp that ran on batteries came to my attention, the others were working or out of town. I instructed the now frankly disapproving daughter to order several of them. “Mom, stop it!” she demanded. “You hate TV, remember?” “That’s when I’m not in prison,” I answered stubbornly. “But don’t you see?,” my daughter persisted, “you’re being persuaded by a TV ad to want something you didn’t even know existed.” “But I know now,” I snapped, “and I want them.”. She sighed heavily.

“Alright mom, I’ll order the bloody things.” But I felt kind of deflated when I hung up, and couldn’t help thinking maybe I am doubly imprisoned in here when I turn on the TV. A kind of prison within a prison, so to speak. I have to think about this.

Betty Krawczyk recently celebrated her 79th birthday inside prison, in addition to her 56th and 76th previously. Betty has spent over 2 years in prison in BC for her participation in anti-logging blockades. You can write to Betty at Alouette Correctional Centre for Women, P.O. Box 1000, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 3K4. For more info: bettysearlyedition.blogspot.com or www.booksofbettyk.com.

**Free Betty!!**

Betty is facing huge court costs - you can help.

Free Betty! shirts are 70% Bamboo and 30% Organic Cotton Tee’s from HT Naturals, available in Mens’ or Women’s styles, Small, Medium or Large.

Price: \$24.95 + GST (total \$26.45). Please add \$2 for postage per shirt.

To order, please send a cheque for the T’s, plus any donation you wish to add, made out to “Betty K Fund”, and a note with:

- the number of shirts you want to order
- Men/Women’s
- Sizes: S, M, L, XL
- Your email & postal address.

and mail to:

Betty K Fund, Attention: Monika Sheardown  
1945 Creelman Avenue  
Vancouver BC, V6J 1B8  
and we’ll send your T-shirt(s) to you promptly!



Sit or Stand - Nowhere to Go!

from Red

First, this is mainly about panhandlers and myself. These are my opinions, my own observations.

It seems to me lately the police have clamped down on a lot of people who, for one reason or another, have no other choice but to try and make a living on and off the streets. But please remember that we are all in the same boat, be it big or small we are just trying to get by.

I would like to know why the police are targeting the so called bottom of society (us). They seem more intent to harass the people on the streets than the pushers, dealers, etc. We as a group are less likely to commit an offence. We may not be the best of society but we look after on another.

Do you think it’s fair that a person trying to survive has no right to do so? Shall we start selling drugs, dealing etc? Why do they make us feel lower than low? How come they give us tickets, that they know we can’t pay, for sitting on city/public property and trying to stay alive? As for myself, I feel as if I am a target because all the years I’ve been on the streets, it seems they have nothing better to do.

If I could, I would like to trade places and see how they would make out. Answer: I’ll never know but I can tell you this -- a lot of them are already dead because of their self-righteousness and belief that their shit doesn’t stink. But they have never been through what we go through, day in and day out. So please remember ... STAND OR SIT doesn’t matter. We’re still gonna get screwed.

Dear editor,

Jim Erkiletian wants to eliminate air travel (Victoria Street Newz, 2007 July, page 2). Not all aircraft are horrible for the environment. Helium airships, which are lighter than air (or nearly so), use much less fuel, like freighters and trains. You have to settle for going slower, that’s all. Also, we must bring world peace because airships are big, slow targets.

Korky Day, Vancouver

Victoria’s Committee to End Homelessness

The Committee to End Homelessness in Victoria began as the Ad Hoc Coalition on Homelessness, with the assistance of the Communities Solidarity Coalition. The idea behind it is to give those who are homeless, or who had recent experience with homelessness, assistance in getting attention directly to their situation.

In addition to advocacy, we plan power lunches which take place at Our Place, 711 Pandora. If you have food to donate or would like to help with the lunch, call Rose at 812-0199.

Regular planning meetings are held Wednesday nights, 7 p.m. at Silver Threads - 1740 Douglas St.

If you are homeless, have been homeless, or think you could be homeless, you are encouraged to join together with the committee in our actions.

For more information write to Phil at plyons@vcn.bc.ca or Don at cridstar@islandnet.com.



MISSING IN ACTION: A National Housing Plan

from Mike Morris

On a Friday night in late November, 1998, Globe & Mail columnist Gay Abbate reached Toronto City Councillor Jack Layton by telephone. Abbate was calling to ask Councillor Layton about the meeting earlier that day, a meeting in which mayors from Canada’s largest cities convened to declare homelessness a national disaster. Layton commented that homelessness was on the rise in all Canadian cities, mainly because Canada lacked a national housing plan. “Because there is no national strategy for housing,” Layton said, “people are piling up in our streets” (Globe & Mail, Nov. 21, 1998, p. A2). A month after the meeting of the Big City Mayors, Vancouver City Council formally ratified the declaration. Canada’s lack of social housing had become so dire that city mayors were asking for federal disaster relief funds to remedy the problem.

In the years after the declaration of the Big City Mayors, the level of homelessness in Vancouver skyrocketed. In June of 2007, Vancouver City Council convened once again to consider the city’s housing crisis. That afternoon more than 30 members of the public had joined the speaker’s list to address City Council directly. Their message was clear: in a city as affluent as Vancouver, there should be homes for all. The message coming from the business-oriented NPA City Council was also clear: budget restraints at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels meant that Olympic-related housing promises could not be kept.



Over the next few weeks, one of the citizen groups which had been present at the June City Hall session - the Citywide Housing Coalition - puzzled over the hesitation of government leaders to address British Columbia’s housing crisis. The coalition, having formed several months previously in order to advocate for more social and affordable housing, was by now familiar with the explanation that budget restraints were hampering governments from building new social housing. The Citywide Housing Coalition was also just one of many citizen groups throughout the city and the province that believed City Hall’s explanation was completely bogus. While City Council argued that government fiscal restraint made Vancouver’s Olympic housing promises questionable, multi-million dollar Olympic mega-projects continued unabated throughout the city.

For example, at \$886 million, Vancouver’s new waterfront convention centre is now almost \$500 million over budget. Meanwhile, reports conclude that provincial and federal funding will provide the bulk of the Vancouver Aquarium’s \$90 million expansion project. And amazingly, even as Vancouver’s homeless population continues to grow in record numbers, Finance Minister Carole Taylor announced earlier this year that a \$250 million Housing Endowment Fund has been locked into a bank to generate interest for future projects. Clearly, government funding to end homelessness is not lacking. The political will to do so, however, is another matter. Until that political will is changed, we will continue to have people “piling up in our streets.”

If you would like to find out more about the Citywide Housing Coalition and our activities, please visit our website at [www.citywidehousingcoalition.org](http://www.citywidehousingcoalition.org) or call Mike Morris at 778-327-9563.



The Face of Canadian Justice

from Chris Cook, originally published at [pacificfreepress.com](http://pacificfreepress.com)

As they did when the masters of the universe convened in Quebec City, Canadian law enforcement again reacted with a heavy hand towards the thousands of peaceful protesters, this time attempting entry into the so-called Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP) debate. Sunday, August 19th, the day before the SPP meeting set between the titular heads of the Canadian, Mexican, and U.S. governments, para-police opened fire with rubber coated steel bullets, tear gas, and “pepper spray.” There were four arrests, and a telling confrontation between apparent “Black Bloc” activists wielding rocks and bottles, and mainstream opponents of the SPP. All protesters agree the deal is a danger to national sovereignty and further hampers functional democracy, but opinions differ on how to fashion an effective approach to power.

In a video shot at the scene, The

“Black Bloc” were identified as agents provocateur. There have often been charges by activists of this kind of false flag operation that hopes to provoke violence the heavily armed and anxious para-police can then use as an excuse to attack protesters. Though this is the first time, to my knowledge, those provocateurs have been captured on tape. In what looks to be a growing scandal for Stephen Harper’s government, Quebec’s provincial police, the Surete, have admitted it was they who planted the agents provocateur in the crowd; though they deny the men caught on tape, one with a large stone in his hand, were there to incite a police riot against peaceful demonstrators - as had happened the day before. A video of the unmasking is available at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=St1-WTc1kow%20](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=St1-WTc1kow%20). Indymedia coverage of the event is at <http://ottawa.indymedia.org/en/2007/08/5383.shtml>.



A letter to the Prime Minister

Prime Minister Harper:

I am a senior-senior Canadian. The Canada I have grown up in has been a wonderful country, a truly great example of what a country should be for its citizens and for the world of nations. Sadly, things have changed to the detriment of our citizens and our world neighbours. The next generation of Canadians will not be able to enjoy the Canada of my generation, and the next generation, our grandchildren, will find life as a Canadian even worse. I believe that what has caused this state of affairs is the corrupt practices of too many of our politicians and the corporations of the world that do business in Canada or with Canada. I believe that legislation such as the North America Free Trade Act (NAFTA), the Security and Prosperity Partnership for North America (SPP), Atlantica, and the Trade, Investment, and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA), the opaqueness of our federal and provincial governments regarding the nature and the consequences to Canada and Canadians if this sort of legislation is enacted, and the apparent unwillingness of our media to report on these issues, is responsible for this deplorable state of affairs. In saying the above, I must also say that Canadians as a whole must take a great deal of the blame; we elect our politicians BUT WE DO NOT MANAGE THEM. We do not take the time to telephone them on these and other issues to query them about the implications of such legislation, nor do we, as a general rule, write letters to them or to the media to raise our concerns in the hope that a revealing light will be cast upon some of the more nefarious pieces of legislation that may be slithering their respective ways through our halls of parliament. This head-in-the-sand attitude on the part of

Canadians MUST stop or Canada will become a vanished country along with all of the social benefits that we have left that Canadians are still enjoying. In my opinion, Canada MUST abrogate NAFTA, she MUST put a stop to the formation of any more TILMA agreements, she MUST declare water as a human right and not an additional commodity that corporations can use for more profits, and she MUST return to her peace keeping role in the world; she MUST NOT use our military forces as combatants in unlawful wars unless we are directly attacked. In addition, Canada MUST put a stop to her becoming a mirror image of the United States. Our federal government MUST follow an independent path in world affairs as directed by the wishes of a highly informed public. I believe we must weed out the Quizzlings in our midst and tell them that their actions are NOT acceptable. I also firmly believe that if we do not reverse the current trends in our federal policies, Canada will fast become the Austria of North America. I also believe, Mr. Prime Minister, that things ARE changing. More and more Canadians are coming to realize that you and your NEW government are selling us out to the Americans. If this happens, Mr. Prime Minister, you and your NEW government will be held accountable by the very same Canadians that you are planning on hoodwinking. Think again, Mr. Prime Minister, you and your family are part of the citizenry of Canada. When you purposely betray Canadians as a whole, you also betray your own family. Stop this SPP business while you still can!

Sincerely,  
Don Parker, Ontario



Discharged

by Brian Mason

The time has come for a wholesale indictment of civilization and mass society. John Zerzan (2006)

Guess what. Life is not a bowl of cherries – unless the bowl’s from China and the fruit, non-organic, of course, is imported from California. It’s more like an intensive care unit. At least for those of us fortunate enough to be living in one of the world’s most hyper-developed countries, Canada.

Intensive care? What else do you think you’re on? ICU is a surreal technological cocoon of continual pampering, of fussy, expensive, specialised attention. Full and complete around-the-clock life support, where none of the patients knows how it all comes together, how everything they need got there, who’s running the show, how it all works and who gets stuck with the bill. Unplug or cut one of those bubbling lines, and the patients are helpless. Sound familiar?

Consider what it takes – and how much of it and how many people – to get you through a normal day. Your food, most of it highly refined, over-packaged stuff, from thousands of kilometres away and, increasingly, from distant continents. Disinfected drinking water from centralised, obscure locations propelled through underground pipe mazes. Sewage and garbage magically made to disappear. Power from huge, complex hydroelectric plants hundreds of kilometres from your home. Fuel, to move, heat and cool you, and cook your food, from many sources, none close to where you live, and all produced in damaging ways. Clothing made overseas. Manufactured products pieced together throughout unimaginably long commodity chains before they are shipped to you from virtually any point on the planet. Drugs from “big pharma” factories nowhere near where you live: health care on a long, thin string. Intensive care for everyday living – and I’m not just referring to your shampoo and conditioner.

Yet, getting everything you need to you on a daily basis is a staggering, wasteful global undertaking. Scary staggering, actually.

You’re completely, helplessly vulnerable to the consequences of any (small or big) disruption of service – be it natural or human-made. The supply lines for everything you need and use are precariously long, they are thin, unstable and unpredictable. They’re easy targets. And, everything you need is enveloped by levels of technology far beyond the scope of individuals or small groups to replicate near home.

Think about it. Especially as weather-related disasters mount. As the arrogant, war-mongering Excited States of America runs wild. If your power goes out, you’re back in the Dark Ages. (That’s not a pun; just go read about city living in the 10th century.) If fuel runs low, you neither eat nor move nor, eventually, drink safe water. Stuff won’t get to you and you won’t get to it. Your small store of emergency granola bars and bottled water won’t quite tide you over.

Jane Jacobs used to talk about “losing the memory of the memory.” She was referring to our loss of social memory, so critical to the inter-generational passing of important skills, craftsmanship, and special knowledge. After awhile, societies forget that they ever knew how to do things for themselves. Most of us are baffled beyond pushing a button on our Blackberry, tuning the iPod or calling a help line. Our complicated products, with their nano

lifespans, can’t be repaired – assuming you could find a technician capable of or interested in doing so – for less than you can buy a replacement, made in Korea.


But it’s more serious than Jane Jacobs even surmised. We are vulnerable in direct proportion to the extent we are not self-sufficient. Our non-self-sufficiency (or sophisticated helplessness) permeates our very model of civilization. Though cities have always been parasitical to some extent on the producers of food and raw materials, the level of civic helplessness is extreme and widespread, now. It’s not only that we have collectively and individually lost the memories of how to meet our needs ourselves, it’s that we have removed any opportunity to be able to do so – or even to learn how to do so. In fact, such work is devalued in an information-based, technological service society. Jobs today bear little relationship to the actual feeding, clothing or sheltering of our bodies. It’s called alienation. Or the lure of luxury.

Such is modern civilization. Writers like Derrick Jensen and John Michael Greer have tried to explain “the problem of civilization,” how those living within it fail to see that it can never be a sustainable way to live, and that its existence at every level is predicated on violence – to one another, to the earth, to ourselves – and that it is not redeemable.


By letting science, with its handmaids the corporations and compliant governments, dictate our culture, we have engineered our dependencies and powerlessness – over long supply lines. Consider what science and government is scheming up at this moment: figuring out how to shield Earth from the warming effects of sunlight, because they’re betting we won’t be able to drastically reduce our levels of carbon emissions in time to avoid the catastrophic effects of global heating. Just imagine: They want to inject sulfur dioxide into the upper atmosphere to form sulphate particles to block sunlight, or launch tiny, maneuverable silicon mirrors into space to reflect and diffuse it. A Sunscreen Star Wars for Planet Earth. Brought to you by one more wonderful alliance between government and science. Never mind our long-standing, demonstrated inability to “manage” the environment. Never mind our failure to ever do just one thing whenever we start tinkering with nature. Never mind that our blind adherence to the siren call of scientific progress – with its promise of a more orderly, risk-free experience – got us into this mess in the first place. NASA right now is funding research into these schemes. It’s a public admission of the extent of our desperation – and of our collective insanity. Not to mention how badly modern civilization has stumbled.

Imagine, instead, if our lives were weaned off the high-tech support systems, if we got discharged from ICU and emerged blinking into the daylight, into the wind and onto the earth. Consider if life were more like an old-fashioned red wagon. You would roll along quite fine without need of a big, global, nannying support system. Never forget: At the controls of all that clever technology presently getting you through the day are Homo sapiens Ice Age hunters, much more at home in a slow moving, uncomplicated world. Unplug, and make yourself a wagon.

Submitted by Brian Mason, who lives in James Bay ICU.



**VARIABLE RETENTION LOGGING**  
According to the BC Ministry of Forests these are the Highest Standards of Logging in British Columbia as practiced in this Special Management Zone in the Walbran Valley, Vancouver Island  
Photos taken June 2007




**LET YOUR GOVERNMENT KNOW WHAT YOU EXPECT!**

Premier Gordon Campbell  
Email: [premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:premier@gov.bc.ca)  
Phone: (250) 387-1715

Rich Coleman, Minister of Forests and Range  
[rich.coleman.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:rich.coleman.mla@leg.bc.ca)  
Phone: (250) 387-6240

Contact your local MLA



photos & text: richard boyce

Speak out on the Bear Mountain Interchange

Local environmental groups are preparing to launch an independent Community Environmental Consultation for the area around the Langford Cave. This is an opportunity to speak about the proposed Bear Mountain (Spencer Road) Interchange. We want to hear people’s concerns about potential impacts on wildlife, recreation, cultural heritage, water, transportation, sprawl, quality of life, and more.

The consultation is tentatively scheduled to run from the first week of September to the first week of December. Groups that have already signed on include:

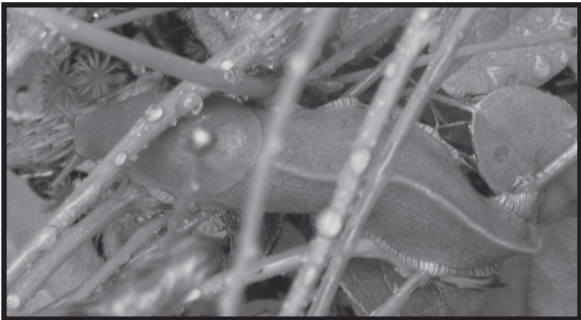
- South Island Land Use Network
- Coalition to Protect Goldstream Watershed
- BC Environmental Network
- Vancouver Island Community Forest Action Network

Any like-minded group can join as a sponsor and help with outreach. Posting the announcement in a newsletter, adding a web link, organizing a field trip, and writing letters to government officials are all great ways to support the project. In order to make the process accessible to everyone, we will be creating a web site, getting a PO box, setting up an email account, advertising, enlisting support from community groups, and renting a hall for a few hours to kick off the event. Volunteers will collate the information and present it to the city, while we prepare for a second round of independent community consultation in 2008.

Developers and the city of Langford have hired consultants to carry out environmental assessments, but residents do not have access to data collected or information about methodology. The city has refused to accept public input about the proposed interchange. At the forums, we were informed that the project is not subject to discussion.

Residents are very concerned that the project will be pushed through without proper assessments, consultations, or regard for First Nations rights. Crucial information about the cave system, wildlife, and hydrology has apparently been disregarded. Among the neighbours and area residents are scientists, biologists, and experienced amateurs with expertise to contribute to an independent assessment. They are asking for help to bring this information forward for consideration. If the city won’t provide a democratic process for citizen input, then we will do it ourselves.

Call anytime to chat about this project or any other upcoming events: Zoe Blunt - Vancouver Island Community Forest Action Network (VIC FAN) 250-885-8219 or [ZoeBlunt@gmail.com](mailto:ZoeBlunt@gmail.com)





Some Food Resources

**9-10 CLUB (ST. ANDREW’S SOUP KITCHEN)**  
740 View St. Victoria, B.C. V8W 1J8 ph: 388-5571 8 - 10am seven days a week.  
Church-run club providing daily meals on a drop-in basis.

**ANAWIM COMPANION SOCIETY**  
973 Caledonia Street Victoria B.C. V8T 1E7 phone: 382-0283  
Mon, Tues, Thurs 10am - 5 pm, Weds, Fri 10am-8pm, Sat 10am-4pm  
Laundry, showers, meals, clothing, limited housing spaces.

**GOLDSTREAM FOOD BANK**  
761 Station Rd (Legion Basement), Langford, B.C. phone: 474-4443  
1st three Tues & Weds of each month, 10 am - 2:30 pm. Closed 2nd wk of Dec.  
Serving the Western Communities from View Royal to Metchosis

***please call  
383-5144 ext  
0137  
with any  
additions or  
changes***

**FOOD NOT BOMBS** - a collectively run food kitchen. Ph: 383-5144, ext 1940  
Free vegetarian serving Sundays, 3 pm - Harris Green (Pandora & Vancouver)  
Bring plastic containers for bowls, bags 4 produce. http://resist.ca/~fmb-victoria

**FRUIT AND VEGGIE BOX**  
C/o Blanshard Community Centre phone: 388-7696  
James Bay Community Project phone: 388-7844  
WorkLink Employment Society phone: 478-9525  
Victoria Native Friendship Centre phone: 384-3211  
Wholesale prices, various size boxes. Pay first, pick up following wk.

**JAMES BAY COMMUNITY SCHOOL**  
140 Oswego Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 2B1 phone: 389-1470  
-Seniors Dinners on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5 PM - \$5.75  
-Community Dinners Weds, approx. every other mth, usually \$4 & \$2 -12 & under.  
Tickets must be purchased at the centre in advance-Community school cafe open  
Mon - Fri 11:45 am -12:30 pm. \$3.25 & child 2.75.

**MEALS ON WHEELS** phone: 479-6900  
For residents of Greater Victoria who, because of age, disability or illness, are unable to  
prepare an adequate meal for themselves, have inadequate cooking facilities, have no  
one to prepare meals, or have health and social needs. Referrals from doctors, health  
& Social Services agencies, concerned friends, family, or personal requests. Current  
cost of meals- \$6.75. In addition to nutritional benefits, some social interaction.

**MUSTARD SEED STREET CHURCH** www.mustardseed.ca  
625 Queens Avenue, Victoria, B.C., V8T 1L9 phone: 953-1575  
Outreach: Mon-Fri 8am-4pm, Food bank: M,T,W,Th 9-11:45am, 12:30-2:00 pm M, W,  
F - Family Hampers, Th - Singles & Couples w/out children. Food bank is closed the  
week following welfare cheque day. Drop in for food, friendship, counseling, and crisis  
intervention. Food hampers available. One visit/mth.

**OUR PLACE (formerly the Open Door)**  
713 Johnson St., Victoria, BC V8W 1M8 phone: 385-2454  
7am - 3 pm Monday to Friday, closed weekends  
Victoria’s ‘Living Room’ - a drop in centre with free sandwiches, doughnuts, coffee, tea,  
bread,, clothing room, counseling, referrals, sometimes produce & pet clinic.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**  
828 View Street, Victoria B.C. V8W 1K2 phone: 382-0712  
9 am-12:30 pm, 1:30 pm-4:30 pm Mon-Friday, Tues aft for Women  
Must be 19 yrs, unless referred by parents, ASK, or Soc Services. Food, clothing,  
household items. Home visits, food vouchers for parents w/children.

**SAINT SAVIOUR’S KITCHEN**  
310 Henry Street, Church Hall (VicWest) phone: 384-8773  
Rainbow Kitchen for everyone, Weds, Thurs, Fris, 12 noon 1:30 pm  
Shelter Weds-Sat nights, arrive 9-10 pm: mats, blankets, often food. Space for 25-35.

**SALVATION ARMY**, Family Services and Counselling (singles, too)  
2695 Quadra, at Hillside ph: 386-8521 Monday Friday, 9 am 3:30 pm  
Emergency food hampers, clothing & small housewares vouchers.  
Extra shelter space only available in sub zero temperatures.

**SIKH TEMPLE**  
Blackwood at Topaz (towards summit park), enter right side door  
Every Sunday at noon - Free food serving, lentil dahl and chapatis, etc.

**STREETLINK EMERGENCY SHELTER**  
1634 Store St., Victoria, B.C. V8W 1S2 ph: 384-3634, office 383-1951  
Free dinner 7 days a week, 3 pm for meal ticket, serving at 3:30

**ST. JOHN THE DIVINE**  
1611 Quadra St., Victoria, B.C., V8W 2L5 phone: 383 7169  
Food bank open Tues & Fridays, 10 am-noon, in church basement. (Closed Fri and  
Tuesday after Welfare Wednesday, and Tuesdays after Monday stat.)

**UPPER ROOM SOCIETY**  
919 Pandora Avenue, Victoria, B.C., V8V 3P4 phone: 388-7112  
Office Hrs: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm Meals: Mon-Sat 12-1pm, 45:30 pm  
Meal pass costs \$26 a month, or \$1 at the door.

**Good Food Box Program** - Duncan area - 250-746-4204, www.providence.bc.ca.

Breakfast Club

**First Saturday:** Christ Church Cathedral at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church Hall  
- 680 Courtney St., 7:45-9:30 am

**Second Saturday:** St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Hall, 680 Courtney St, 8-10 am

**Third Saturday:** Glad Tidings Pentecostal Church Hall, 1800 Quadra St. 8-10

**Fourth Saturday:** Central Baptist Church, 833 Pandora, 8-10 am; 385-7786

**Fifth Saturday:** BC Ferry Workers’ Union at St. Andrew’s Hall, 8-10 am

DAY WORKERS FOR HIRE

We provide dependable labour for the odd jobs that arise in your  
home, office, or business. All wages go directly to the workers.

101-749 Pandora, 388-9296

Housing Resources

No Cost for Service, Time Limited Stay

Salvation Army (Emerg men only) 525 Johnson Street, 384-3396

Streetlink 1634 Store Street, 383-1951

Sandy Merriman House (for women) 809 Burdett Avenue, 480-1408

Sobering & Assessment Ctr (24 hr) 1125 Pembroke (@ Cook) 213-4444

Out of the Rain (Youth 15-25) 812-0490 winter only, various locations

Kiwanis Youth Shelter (13-18) 2117 Vancouver St., 386-8282

Hill House - Women with children 479-3963

Sooke Transition House 642-2591 Women with or without children

Vic. Women’s Transition House 385-6611 Women with or w/out kids

Cridge Centre for the Family 1190 Kings Rd 386-7291 Women & kids

Kiwanis House for single women 16-29 w/ one child 382-1004

Margaret Laurence House 995-0058 Women & kids escaping abuse

Low Cost Monthly Rentals

CLOSED: YWCA Women’s Residence - 880 Courtney Street, 386-7511

Ritz Hotel - 710 Fort Street, 381-1868

Fairfield Hotel - 710 Cormorant St., 386-1621

York Hotel - 711 Johnson Street, 385-2544

Douglas Hotel - 1450 Douglas Street, 383-4157

Ocean Island Backpackers - 791 Pandora Avenue 385-1788

Turtle Refuge Backpackers - 1608 Quadra Street 386-4471

Vic. Human Exchange Soc. 361- 2762, 1-800-691-9366, www.humanx.org

Extreme Outreach - men only, \$350 + dep. No alcohol or drugs. 708-2064

Subsidized and/or Supported Housing Services

BC Housing (subsidized - low income families, 55+, or w/disabilities)  
301- 3440 Douglas Street, 475-7550 www.bchousing.org

Burnside Gorge Community Assoc. 388-5251 members.shaw.ca/bgca

Capital. Region Housing (subsidized, low income families, 55+, disabilities)  
623 Fisgard, 388-6422 www.crd.bc.ca/housing

Coordinated Housing Registry (subsidized & supported housing)  
www.coolaid.org 826 Cormorant St. 356-2548

M’Akola Housing Society 384-1423

Pacifica Housing Advisory Assoc. (families) 827 Fisgard 385-2131

Pacifica Housing Serv/Downtown Outreach Serv (connects low-income folk w/  
housing in private sector) 826 Cormorant 356-2555

Pandora Youth Apts 753 Pandora, For 15-19 yrs, Andrea - 380-2663

St. Vincent de Paul Soc. 382-2767 www.svdpvictoria.com/services/

Victoria Senior Citizen Housing Society #501-620 View, 384-3434

Housing Searches on the Internet

BC Housing Subsidized Housing List www.bchousing.org

Brown Bros. Property Management www.brownbros.com

BC Co-Operative Housing www.chf.bc.ca/

Camosun Off Campus Housing List http://www.myidealhome.com/ccss

David Burr Property Management www.davidburr.com

Off Campus Housing for students housing.uvic.ca/ads/index.php

www.homes4students.ca

Helpful Housing Hints

1. Add your name to the BC Housing list.
2. Add your name to the Coordinated Housing Registry.
3. Get the addresses & phone numbers of subsidized or supported housing units  
from the Cool Aid Society, the BGCA, M’Akola, etc. If you find one you like, make  
friends, impress them, ask them to pull your name off the list. They can let you in,  
but you have to be listed with BC Housing first.

Some places to call for help

Action Committee of People with Disabilites - 926 View St., 383-4105

Adult Addiction Comm. Treatment Serv: 2nd floor, 1250 Quadra, 727-3544

AIDS Vancouver Island: 1601 Blanshard St., 384-2366

Alano Club: 1402 Broad St, 383-9151

Alcoholics Anon: #8, 2020 Douglas, 383-7744 (help), 383-0415 (off)

Cool-Aid Medical Clinic: 385-1466

Cool-Aid Phone Message Service (\$5/mth): 383-1977

Credit Counselling - 477-9998

Foundation of Support of Recovery for Men: 480-1342

Grief/Bereavement Counsel: Lorraine Jasmin, R.P.C., 1198 Goldstream, sliding scale

Men’s Trauma Centre: 381-6367, #203-1420 Quadra St. www.menstrauma.ca

Outreach Services Methadone Clinic: 2004 Fernwood Rd., 480-1232

Problem Gambling Help Line - 1-888-795-6111

Prostitute Empowerment & Education (PEERS): 744 Fairview Rd., 388-5325

Research, Education, Evaluation, & Support Prog. (REES): 595-8619

Salvation Army Addictions & Rehab Centre: 525 Johnson, 384-3396

Society of Living Intravenous Drugusers (SOLID): 7-9 pm Weds, 1947 Cook

Together Against Poverty Society (TAPS): #415 - 620 View Street 361-3521

Victoria Native Friendship Centre: 384-3211 -- 231 Regina Ave V8Z 1J6

Victoria Sobering & Assessment Centre: 1125 Pembroke, 213-4444

Vancouver Island Addiction Recovery Soc.: 536 Cecelia, 480-1342

Youth-to-Youth Support Line - 24 hours. Confidential. 386-TALK, www.youthlines.ca





Ring-A-Ding-Ding  
Ate Ice Cream

The cantankerous old fart from down the road  
Had a pigeon on his hat I thought he'd explode  
Got a blue ice sleigh for all the long journeys

Leave the ice and waterways steamed and burning  
There's buckets of hope and jars of eiderdown  
Burst through the sky like a bull through brown paper  
Ring-a-ding-ding ate ice cream never bought tickets  
The luncheon at the lunch room sat on backless benches  
Feet up for duck soup hands out for parachutes pillow cases  
Drove the train through the station wall it burst in the street  
A splat of paint on a comic book cover  
Bronzed and new in fresh sun tan of leather soft Italian shoe  
The line in the song like a telephone line hardly a train track  
Put a tack behind the bicycle wheel stop fast speed chases  
Took the wings off the albatross put it on the cellophane tour bus  
Got it to drive all night long through the mist the ghost fair  
In a tin carousel of bells windmills and whistles and trumpet shells  
The silver sandstorm lands lots of sand on the soft sofa moss  
Why the hyper dross? And why the budgie song?  
Why the steak and lettuce on ice on walnut serving plates?  
Why the answer when the question is always confusing?  
Something to do with fusion of marmalade and marzipan.

© Paul Burnside

editor's note: Paul studied Creative Writing at UVic and, for many years, has survived thanks to the warmth and generosity of those who offer food and buy poetry. If you'd like to contribute to Paul's dental fund (he'd really like a new front tooth), please donate directly to his account (it's in his name - Paul Burnside) at Cool Aid's Dental Clinic - 469 Swift Street, 383-5957. Or, send a cheque to Street Newz specifying it's for Paul's tooth fund. Thanks.

Whatever will be will be

Let go of your fears;  
Give in to simplicity;  
Accept what you receive  
With gratitude;  
Use your talent and  
Extend it;  
Grasp on to hope  
And don't let go;  
Allow time to heal  
These old wounds;  
Don't worry about  
Tomorrow or the next day;  
These days are the gift of life.

Dear God, please forgive my short-comings and know  
That I will do all I can to improve  
my life and the lives  
Of others. I am devoted to  
showing goodwill.  
I thank you for all I have and for  
what I will receive.  
I accept Your will as it is for the greater good.  
In the troubled times of today, I pray to You and  
To the great strength of my ancestors, that all  
The people will see the need to work  
Together for the sake of generations  
To come.

Colleen DeRoache



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NATION

Homelessnation.org is a chance to become the media, empower our voices collectively, break down stereotypes and fight for social justice.

Homelessnation.org is a forum by and for the homeless of Canada where YOU can represent yourself the way you want to be presented, tell your story, express your points of view and be heard.

"Everyone has the right to free speech as guaranteed by our Charter of Freedoms. Our fight is peoples' right to be heard." - Gadget, Montreal outreach Worker

JOIN NOW! IT'S FREE! Get your own free webpage and e-mail address at homelessnation.org. Contact Richard via email: richard@boyce.net

gestures of civility  
mixed in among the wash

in the absence of fidelity  
or hope

there's laundry

reams and acres of it.

she had flown off for the weekend  
and knowing where she was paled  
compared to knowing where she wasn't.

the place sat in filth

as i had been eeking by, nearing the lip

and she had been popping in

dropping off

and running out.

getting at the clothes piles seemed the

softest option

and the easiest way

to make a dent.

at first, i started the sorting

pulling her soiled items

away from my own.

if she'd moved on

why was i still playing maid?

but, it proved too much

that fabric separation

broke my will

at every unmentionable

and stray sock.

so, in it went

together.

washed hot and clean and folded

as the tears streamed down my face.

pile after pile

load upon load heaped

upon our marriage bed

now emptied

for i couldn't bear to lay there any longer

so it was employed as hamper

folding table

and cabinet.

the more i washed

the better i felt

i was taking care

whether she wanted it, needed it, or not.

she did eventually come home

but, not to stay.

she embraced me deeply

the soft down of her cheek pressed

against my flesh

and she whispered "thanks"

for all the effort.

i knew she meant it

and, i let her go.

as i watched her pull away

i knew that moment

that simple gesture of civility

was as good

as it would ever be again.

folding panties as penance

for the sin

of being human.

j. fisher

One Wit Gun

And another Canadian Soldier did die in the friendly fire  
another Canadian mother is in grief for her beloved son.

And as well

another teenager in Afghanistan is praying to Allah  
for a new gun.

Another Canadian Businessman did make his wise investment  
in to the stocks of warfare.

Demand for the gun powder is high  
and who does care who is going to or who is not going  
to die? - Why?

And another improvised explosive device did go off  
under the Canadian Military Convoy  
Another sweet victory for Taliban.

Another deceiving speech made by the Canadian Politician  
another deployment of the Military Troops for another in  
Afghanistan Mission. - Why?

One with gun - two at WAR - three customers in the store.

One with gun - two at WAR - three customers in the store.

One with gun - two at WAR - three customers in the store.

© Miroslav Vlcek



Justin  
Nozuka

reads  
the  
Street Newz!!

myspace.com/  
justinnozuka





Victoria's Campus and Community Radio

# CFUV

101.9 FM

[cfuv.uvic.ca](http://cfuv.uvic.ca)

Music | Spoken Word | Multicultural | Public Affairs

James Christian  
B.SC. (Herbal Medicine), MNIMH, RH  
Medical Herbalist

Victoria, BC 250-920-8351  
[medicalherbalist@yahoo.ca](mailto:medicalherbalist@yahoo.ca)  
[askaherbalist.ca](http://askaherbalist.ca)

Jim Butler and Larry Gagnon accept requests for and contributions of used computer components. They'll rebuild and redistribute internet capable computers.

Free indefinite loan to low or no income people.

For more information call Jim at 474-3446

## Tony's Trailers

Bike trailers for every person & purpose

766 Handy Road, Mill Bay  
(250) 743-9915  
[tonystrailers.com](http://tonystrailers.com)

Contact Tony to sponsor a trailer for a homeless person or 'binner.'



Canadian made quality hemp clothing & body care products

547 Johnson St - 'LoJo'  
422 Craigflower Rd - Vic West

# H&C

HEMP & COMPANY

"There are people who can do all fine and heroic things but one: keep from telling their happinesses to the unhappy."

- Following the Equator, Pudd'nhead Wilson's New Calendar ~ Mark Twain ~

## CASCADIA MASSAGE THERAPY

DAVID BAROFF, BA, JD, RMT

[www.cascadiamassagetherapy.com](http://www.cascadiamassagetherapy.com) book online

1781 McKenzie Avenue  
Victoria, BC V8N 1A6  
(250) 472-2016

Victoria Street Newz

September circ: 1800

## Central America Support Committee

CASC

Join us first Wednesday of every month:  
7:30 PM upstairs at 1923 Fernwood Road  
Email: [casc@telus.net](mailto:casc@telus.net)  
Phone: 598-7690  
Web: <http://casc.communitypipe.org/>

**Café Simpatico**  
Victoria's Activist Coffeehouse  
598-7690 • 1923 Fernwood Road

Fair trade organic coffee available by the cup or pound

Standing up for you!

1020 Hillside Avenue  
Phone: 250 360 2023  
[rob.fleming.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:rob.fleming.mla@leg.bc.ca)

Rob Fleming, MLA  
Victoria - Hillside

thanks for the work you are doing it's people like you that make it worthwhile (or able) for me to go on

anonymous

## dark horse books

623 johnson street  
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quasi-alternative, unusual and eclectic

Sun, Mon, Tues: 12-5  
Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat: 10-6

Victoria's BIG little bookshop.

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Denise Savoie  
Member of Parliament for Victoria

970 Blanshard Street  
363-3600  
[www.denisesavoie.ca](http://www.denisesavoie.ca)

## A Voice for Victoria in Ottawa



To provide a voice, and income opportunities, for economically marginalized and/or socially disadvantaged people, at the same time offering employable skills training, increased self-esteem, confidence, and pride in accomplishments.

Distribution

Street Newz is sold by a very important team of licensed vendors who sign a code of conduct. They buy the newspapers for \$.50 each, and resell them by donation, to encourage a sliding-scale economy that's inclusive and offers people a choice.

Wanna Help?

If you're interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Janine at 383-5144 ext 0137 or drop in to the Solstice Cafe (529 Pandora) most Fridays 10-noon.

Maybe you can help

- \* maintain website?
- \* with office tasks (typing, phone calling, organizing resource page)?
- \* with outreach to community and church groups?



John



Debbie



Ken



Shirley



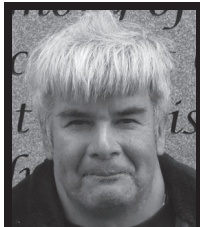
Ted & Bok



Rick



Rose



Berni



John



Sean

Join the Team !!  
Earn Money! Become a vendor. Sell Victoria Street Newz!  
For info about that call John at 886-5863  
or visit him at his "office" outside Coast Capital near Fort on Douglas Street.

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

Vendors pay 50 cents for each Street Newz. Together, this pays for the Street Newz printing costs.



Anything you give, in excess of 50 cents, goes directly to the low income vendor who works to distribute the paper.

Vendor Wish List

please call to organize pick up/drop off  
383-5144 ext 0137

- ear muffs, toques, gloves, scarves,
- warm socks, holeless boots,
- long johns, umbrellas

Behind the Scenez

Street Newz is a project of the Bread and Roses Collective - a registered not-for profit society. Its purpose is to support educational and employment opportunities for socially disadvantaged and/or economically marginalized people, provide information about and support community organizations concerned with the relief of poverty and the promotion of public education, and support and encourage community based artistic endeavours that enhance our collective quality of life.

Board of Directorz

- Chair: Janine Bandcroft
- Co-Chair: James Rowe
- Treasurer: Landon Downs
- Secretary: Lisa Helps
- Director: Larry Wartels

Advisorz

- Brian Mason
- Colin Dower
- Jen Hastie
- George Simich
- Chris Cook

Creative Fundraising

Recently, our friends at the Canadian Community Housing Foundation purchased a volume subscription. In exchange for their 600 dollars, they'll receive 18 copies of Street Newz each month for a year, delivered to their door. They can then distribute those newspapers to their clients, board of directors, or whoever they choose.

ICO (InnovativeCommunities.Org) are worldwide friends that enable the Canadian Community Housing Foundation to eradicate poverty by creating innovative sustainable communities. ICO has issued a challenge to other organizations, especially those that are charitable, to support the Street Newz by purchasing a volume subscription. You can read about their challenge by accessing the 'Homelessness Centre' at InnovativeCommunities.org.

THE SNZ BOOKS

Operating Revenue

Coordinator's Revenue			
Paper Sales (from vendors)	550.00	510.00	600.00
Donations	195.00	60.00	20.00
Subscriptions	0.00	0.00	35.00
Salary from B & R	740.50	700.00	700.00
Workshop - Lifecycles	0.00	80.00	0.00
Vendor t-shirt reimbursement	0.00	0.00	286.20
Total Coordinator's Revenue	1485.50	1270.00	1641.20
B&R Revenue (deposited)			
Advertising	0.00	125.00	0.00
Donations	150.00	65.00	110.00
Subscriptions	145.00	155.00	0.00
Total B&R Rev. (deposited)	295.00	345.00	110.00
Total Operating Revenue	1780.50	1615.00	1751.20

Operating Expenses

Coordinator's Expenses			
Paper & Printing Costs	571.34	571.34	571.34
Office expenses	16.00	16.00	36.00
Misc. (postage, fees, etc.)	74.82	98.60	84.56
Community reciprocity	135.00	40.00	50.00
Vendor t-shirts	0.00	0.00	286.20
Total Coordinator's Expenses	797.16	725.94	1028.10
B & R Expenses			
Bus Tickets (2 for 1)	40.50	40.50	40.50
fm PSAC Grant	225.00	0.00	0.00
fm B & R reserves	475.00	700.00	700.00
Vendor t-shirts	0.00	0.00	336.20
sub ttl B&R Expenses	740.50	740.50	1076.70
Total Operating Expenses	1537.66	1466.44	2104.80
the difference: revenue - expenses	242.84	148.56	-353.60
Bread & Roses Bank Balance	3488.39	3132.55	2846.18

\* a note from the coordinator: Since we began publishing, in '04, I've printed our revenue and expenses. If you've followed along, you'll note my methods have changed over the years as I try to report, as accurately as possible, money we spend and receive thru two different accounts. The intention is transparency. Ultimately, I'm a hopeless accountant but I try, and the bottom line is there's money in the bank, no debt, the rent is paid, and there's food in the cupboards.

A HUGE THANK YOU !!

1800 September Street Newzes are brought to you by:

New or Renewed Subscribers:  
Alison Acker

Creative Contributors:  
Cindy L'Hirondelle, Brian Mason, Janine Banderof, Derek Skinner, cyann ray, Jennifer Hastie, Gerry Masuda, Peter Verin, West Mundy, Carole James and the NDP Official Opposition, Daniel, Betty Krawczyk, Red, Korky Day, Mike Morris, Chris Cook, Don Parker, Richard Boyce, Zoe Blunt, Paul Burnside, j. fisher, Miroslav Vlcek, Colleen DeRoache

Extra generous supporters:  
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John Chomyn and all the vendors and writers, the Bread and Roses Collective, Lisa Helps, Colin Dower, Brian Mason, Bill & Hemp & Co., Andy Sinats, Jennifer & Cecil, Chris Cook, Gerry Masuda, James Christian, David Baroff, Jennifer Hill, Liz Zloklikovits, Carol Quartermain, Deanna Geddo, Israel Bayer and Ruth and Street Roots and NASNA and INSP, Lyn X and Larissa, Bill & Sheila Ede, John & Gail Ede, Audrey, Shirley Hollingsworth, Brian & Maureen Banderof, and everyone at who helped my Dad in his final days.

And anyone else I may have missed - we couldn't do it without you!!

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION

Victoria Street Newz is a proud member of the North American Street Newspaper Association and the International Network of Street Papers. The mission of NASNA is to support a street newspaper movement that creates and upholds journalistic and ethical standards while promoting self-help and empowerment among people living in poverty. INSP is an umbrella organization that provides a consultancy service for its partner papers and advises on the setting up of new street papers and supports initiatives for marginalized people. Visit NASNA at www.nasna.org or the INSP at www.street-papers.org.

TO PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT

Street Newz does not have charitable status, so we can't issue tax receipts.  
We do, however, offer various subscription options:

- Individual: \$35/yr
- Low Income: \$20/yr
- Volume Subscriptions (for organizations or businesses):
  - \$600/yr for 18 monthly newspapers
  - \$300/yr for 9 monthly newspapers

Make cheques payable to Street Newz and send to 1027 Pandora Avenue, Victoria BC V8R 3P3 Thanks!!

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